



PRESS RELEASE
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For Immediate Release

February 15, 2005

DEBARY WOMAN CHARGED IN WIRE FRAUD SCHEME

Orlando, Florida – A federal grand jury returned a ten-count Indictment charging Dawn L. Johnson, age 40, of DeBary, Florida, with wire fraud on Wednesday, February 9, 2005. Johnson was arrested yesterday. If convicted on the wire fraud charges, Johnson could be sentenced to a maximum prison sentence of 20 years for each count of conviction, a maximum fine of \$1 million and a maximum of three years' supervised release.

The Indictment states that during the period 2000 through 2003, Johnson worked as a Property and Casualty Claims Specialist for CNA Health Insurance, formerly of Maitland, Florida. While working in that position, Johnson allegedly submitted 45 false claims for payment by falsely coding payment requests as worker's medical claims when in fact the payments were sent to her creditors. As a result of Johnson's alleged actions, CNA suffered a loss of about \$141,681. Johnson allegedly used the money to pay her debts.

The case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Health Care Task Force made up of agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, United States Postal Service, Health and Human Services - Office of the Inspector General, and assisted by the Florida Department of Law Enforcement and Orange County Sheriff's Office. The task force was

formed to investigate health care fraud in the central Florida area. The case will be prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Karen L. Gable of the Orlando Division of the United States Attorney's Office.

An indictment is merely an allegation that a crime has been committed. All defendants are presumed innocent until the entry of a guilty plea or until the defendant is proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.

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